

**STATE OF NEW YORK**  
**LEGISLATURE OF ERIE COUNTY**  
**BUFFALO, N.Y., FEBRUARY 6, 2014, A.D.**

**I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT** *at a regular session of the Legislature of Erie County, held in the County Hall, in the City of Buffalo, on the 6th day of February, A.D. 2014, a resolution was adopted, of which the following is a true copy:*

**WHEREAS,** *James A. Bennett, Esquire, who was born in Western New York to parents who made giving back to the community a way of life; and,*

**WHEREAS,** *Jim, after attending college at Bowling Green and after serving overseas in the rank of captain, received the Army Commendation Medal; after graduation from law school at Ohio State, he started a 40 year legal career as the founding partner of Bennett, Schechter, Arcuri & Will LLP law firm; and,*

**WHEREAS,** *Jim has been very active in Western New York communities as director and coach in the Clarence Girls Softball League for more than 20 years; and,*

**WHEREAS,** *while serving on a committee for the "Thunderbird Girl Scout Camp," Jim helped negotiate the purchase of land that was eventually turned over to the Town of Clarence, which now houses the Clarence Nature Center; and,*

**WHEREAS,** *Jim, who for more than 35 years has been a Lion and who has received the prestigious Robert Uplinger Distinguished Service Award for his work with the Clarence Lion Club; and,*

**WHEREAS,** *Jim has served as director of the Clarence Chamber of Commerce and chairs the Chamber's Business Roundtable and Legislative/Governance programs; and*

**WHEREAS,** *Jim sits on the Advisory Board for Clarence High School's new Academy of Business and Finance and has served many years as director and two terms as President of Clarence's Brookfield Country Club; and,*

**WHEREAS,** *Jim is one of the founders of Family Promise of WNY, a homeless shelter involving churches of all denominations to assist in housing homeless families, where Jim has served as a Trustee for over twenty years and has also served terms as its president; and,*

**WHEREAS,** *Jim has served for more than 12 years as a director of the Pro-Zoo Board for the Buffalo Zoo, assisting the Zoo's fundraising efforts, and,*

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT**

***RESOLVED***, that the Erie County Legislature recognizes and acknowledges James A. Bennett, Esquire, for his years of active and committed service to several civic, education, and public service organizations in Western New York and who is also honored by the Clarence Chamber of Commerce's selection as the 2014 Lifetime Achiever of the Year in recognition for his dramatic positive impact on the welfare of the community.

---

***Edward A. Rath III***  
***Erie County Legislator***

---

***Scott W. Kroll***  
***Clerk of the Erie County Legislature***